

REMARKS

In reply to the above Office Action, the Abstract has been cancelled and replaced by a new Abstract on a separate sheet of paper in compliance with with M.P.E.P. §608.01(b).

In addition, claims 1-24 have been cancelled and replaced by new claims 25-40 to avoid the claim objections and improper multiple dependency and the rejection of the claims under §112, second paragraph.

New main claim 25 corresponds essentially to a combination of claims 1 and 2 and dependent claims 26-40 to claims 3-17. Claims 18-24 have not been retained. The Examiner's suggested claim format is appreciated and has been used in the drafting of new main claim 25.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 (now claims 25 and 26) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the failure to include all of the essential steps of the claimed method. It is believed new main claim 25 now includes all of the essential steps and withdrawal of the rejection of the claim under §112 is therefore requested. Support for claim 25 can be found in original claims 1 and 2 as well as, for example, on page 60, line 10 to page 61, line 12.

It is believed claims 25-40 are now in condition for allowance.

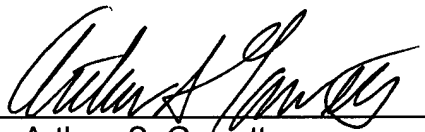
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 15, 2004

By: 
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Attachments: New Abstract

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